Ministry of Power has launched me Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) now known as Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in the year 2000-01 as an important step towards reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial losses and restoring commercial viability of the power sector. Distribution reforms are expected to bring out the desired changes in the performance of the State Electricity Boards through the adoption of best technical and commercial practices in the operation and management of distribution circles.

(c) APTRANSCO entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Ministry of Power on 29.5.2002 for implementing the APDRP in Andhra Pradesh. The circles of Eluru, Warangal, Tirupati were identified for developing as centre of excellence in the State. Schemes worth Rs.99.6 crore were approved and a sum of Rs.49.8 crore was released for metering and distribution transformers under sub-transmission and distribution in the FY 2000-01. Additionally schemes worth Rs.95.12 crore were also approved for R&M of Vijaywada TPS and Kothagudem TPS and R&U of HEP. An amount of Rs. 45.03 crores was released for this purpose in FY 2000-01.

In the first six* months of the year 2002-03, a total number of 22 schemes have been sanctioned under APDRP costing Rs. 974.09 crores. An amount of Rs. 39.07 crores has been released on 4th April, 2002.

International Conference for Energy Conservation in Delhi

853. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an international conference on strategies for energy conservation was held in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the strategies devised and recommended for energy conservation; and

(c) the action taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The International Conference on "Strategies for Fnergy Conservation in the New Millennium" was held on the

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23-24 August, 2002. An Action Plan of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), a statutory body created by the Central Government under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 to implement the various provisions of the Act was released on this occassion, outlining the strategies towards energy conservation. The Action Plan includes following thrust areas :

*Indian Industry Programme for Energy Conservation (IIPEC).

*Demand Side Management (DSM).

*Standards and Labeling Programme.

*Energy Efficiency in Buildings and Establishments.

*Energy Conservation Building Codes.

*Professional Certification And Accreditation.

*Formulation of Manuals and Codes.

*Energy Efficiency Policy Research Programme.

*School Education.

*Delivery Mechanism for Energy Efficiency Services.

Pursuant to the above, it is expected that the Central Ministries and Departments would"effect an energy saving of 30% during the next five years. Similar appeal has also been made to the private sector expecting them to effect a saving of 20% during the corresponding period.

State Government and Union Territory Administrations have also been advised to implement energy conservation measures required under the Energy Conservation Act. Dialogues have been initiated with select industry groups in the manufacturing sector and Working Groups have been established for working out minimum standards of consumption of their products and also towards recommending appropriate labeling thereon.

Similar discussions have taken place with select process industry sectors resulting in constitution of task forces towards recommending measures for energy saving.